



PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kunihiro YAMADA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2671

Application No.: 09/810,609

Examiner: K. Nguyen

Filed: March 19, 2001

Docket No.: 108841

For: A MAP DISPLAY DEVICE, A MEMORY MEDIUM AND A MAP DISPLAY METHOD

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

JUL 13 2004
Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In reply to the March 5, 2004 Office Action, the period for reply effectively extended by a one-month Petition for Extension of Time to July 6, 2004, reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-17 are pending.

Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yoshida, U. S. Patent No. 5,204,817, in view of Ando, U. S. Patent No. 5,925,091.

Yoshida and Ando fail to disclose or suggest a map display device, wherein the drawing processing control means is equipped with a function for determining a unit of a polygon map that should be drawn and draws a polygon map of the determined unit to distinguish between a plurality of unit levels as recited in claim 1. Yoshida and Ando also fail to disclose or suggest a computer readable memory medium with programs for determining a unit of a polygon map that should be drawn and drawing a polygon map of the determined unit to distinguish between a plurality of unit levels as recited in claim 16 or a

method for displaying a map with the steps of determining a unit of a polygon map that should be displayed and displaying a polygon map of the determined unit to distinguish between a plurality of unit levels as recited in claim 17.

As admitted on page 2 of the Office Action, Yoshida fails to disclose drawing a polygon map which is equipped with a unit map. Yoshida computes a plurality of routes that extend from a starting polygon to a destination polygon with each route including a combination of sides of the chain polygons, starting polygon and the destination polygon (Abstract). The navigation system stores map data of polygons that are defined by roads of a predetermined rank (col. 1, lines 66-68 and col. 3, lines 33-36). However, Yoshida fails to disclose determining a unit of a polygon map that should be drawn or drawing a polygon map of a determined unit to distinguish between a plurality of unit levels because Yoshida only draws one unit of a polygon map.

Ando discloses a method for drawing a map wherein even if the data of the wide-area map does not include any data pertaining to the presently-traveled road, the presently-traveled road is displayed on the display screen (col. 1, lines 60-67). A road is thus generated in response to a scale of the displayed map. In Ando, each map stored in the CD-ROM 4 is divided into units sectioned by longitude and latitude selected according to the map scale (col. 4, lines 24-26). One unit of map data includes, among other things, various kinds of image primitives such as lines and polygons. When a map is redrawn when an enlargement or reduction operation is performed, units of map data are read in order to display a map (col. 4, lines 55-62).

Although Ando discloses polygons, Ando only states that polygons are included in one unit of map data. Ando fails to provide any discussion with regard to polygon maps or creating polygon maps by using the polygons. As such, Ando fails to select a polygon map or determine a unit of a polygon map because Ando fails to disclose using polygon maps.


A unit of a polygon map was asserted as corresponding to a unit of map data on page 2 of the Office Action. This is not correct. In Ando, each map is divided into units of map data. Ando thus uses units of map data that are combined together to form one map. Conversely, a unit of a polygon map is one map comprised of polygons whose sides (i.e., roads) were selected based on a ranking system in order to create the polygon. The unit thus indicates the selection of the roads that are combined to create the polygons. The smaller the scale of the map, the number of roads that are eligible to create the polygon is decreased. As such, the unit of a map data in Ando is not the same as a unit of a polygon map. Accordingly, Ando also fails to disclose a unit of a polygon map or determining a unit of a polygon map.

Accordingly, both Yoshida and Ando fail to provide any disclosure with regard to determining a unit of a polygon map or drawing a polygon map of the determined unit to distinguish between a plurality of unit levels. Accordingly, Yoshida and Ando fail to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in claims 1, 16 and 17 or the additional features recited in the dependent claims. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-17 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 6, 2004

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